

# OUTLOOK IS GOOD FOR THE FARMER

Sec'y of Agriculture Wallace Sees Fine Farm Prospects for the Coming Year.

Twelve months ago most of the six million farmers of the United States were starting on the long hard climb out of the valley of economic depression. They have not yet attained the heights which are bathed in the grateful sunshine of prosperity. Some indeed, have fallen by the way. Others are still in the valley. Nevertheless, as we step a bit and look backward we can see that very considerable ground has been gained by the great majority, and we can enter the New Year with renewed hope and with that courage which comes from the realization that we are really making progress.

A year ago, when speaking of the prospects for farming in 1922, I said that while there was no reason to expect boom times for the farmer in the near future, there was promise of better times, both for the farmer and for those whose business is largely dependent upon him. The year has brought fulfillment of that promise. Speaking generally, times are better, much better, than a year ago, both for agriculture and for industry.

Crops have been good, on the whole. Prices of the major crops are most considerably higher. While there has been a corresponding advance in the prices of the things the farmer must buy, the total sum which farmers will receive for the crops of this year is greater by a billion and a half dollars or more than that which they receive for the crops of last year. This will certainly mean better times on the farm, and farm folks will be able to ease up a little on the grinding economy they were forced to practice the preceding year.

The labor cost of producing the crops of 1922 was still further reduced. There were some substantial reductions in freight rates. Much helpful legislation has been enacted and more will be this winter. Interest rates are lower and the credit strain has ceased. This has made it possible for many farmers who were rather heavily involved to refund their obligations and get themselves in condition to win through.

There are still some dark spots. In some sections weather conditions were unfavorable and crops were short, and farmers in these sections are having a very hard time of it. Freight rates are still too high, especially for those who must pay for a long haul to market.

Taxes are high, but this is largely due to the increase in local taxes, over which farmers themselves must exercise control.

There has been gratifying growth in farmers' cooperative marketing associations, and more of them are being organized on a sound business basis.

Aside from the help which has been given by legislation and by administration activities, strong economic forces are at work to restore a more normal relation between agriculture and other industries.

The peril in the agricultural depression is more keenly realized by other groups than ever before, and on every hand a sincere desire is being evidenced to do what can be done safely to help the farmer better his condition.

Everything considered, we have good reason to expect still better things for agriculture in the year 1923.

## Look into Par-Kar Company's Affairs

A meeting of about 100 persons vitally interested in the welfare of the Par-Kar Coching Company was held Tuesday evening in the Chamber of Commerce rooms in Alma, at which matters pertaining to the financial welfare of the institution were gone into as closely as possible. Among those attending the meeting were many residents of both St. Louis and Alma, who have been closely associated with the company in one way or another since it started in St. Louis some months ago.

Following a discussion of the affairs of the company and the reading of a statement by Secretary Ream, a committee of five members was appointed, which will have for its aim a thorough knowledge of all of the affairs of the company and the possibilities that are offered for the future.

Just what steps the committee proposes to take are not known at this time, and whether the committee may possibly attempt to secure new finances for the concern, or take some other steps cannot be told at the present time. It is probable that some definite action may be taken by the committee before the week is over. It is certain, however, that the committee will make a full investigation into all of the affairs of the company before anything further may be expected.

## VEEDER IS CAPTAIN

Veeder, guard on the Alma High School basketball team, was elected as the captain of the 1922-23 quintet at a meeting of the letter men on the high school squad. He will lead the High five against Ithaca High at Ithaca next week in his first contest as the captain of the Orange and Black eagles.

## Local News

Nick Bardaville left yesterday for a short business trip to Detroit. Burns Rayercraft of Detroit is spending the holidays in Alma. Undersheriff Earl Willert of Ithaca was in the city on business Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Romaine Clark of Ithaca were Alma visitors on Thursday.

You will find the best bread in Butter Cup wrappers—advertisement.

Donald Dunham left Tuesday to visit with friends in Bay City for a few days.

Mrs. A. W. Davis has been called to Cleveland by the serious illness of her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Jewet have moved to Durand, where they will make their future home.

Forest Smith of Saginaw, a former resident of this city, visited with Alma friends Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Handley are visiting with relatives at Pataaskal, Ohio, for a short time.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Campbell of Cleveland are visiting at the home of their parents here this week.

Dr. E. G. Snyter, osteopathic physician, State Savings Bank Building, Alma, both phones.—advertisement.

Mark Spinney of Detroit spent Christmas in this city, a guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Spinney. Willard Storage Battery Service Station, Visger's Battery Service, 303 E. Superior St.—advertisement.

F. C. Bradley, who is engaged in the trucking business in Detroit, spent Christmas here with his family.

Velma Micheal of Detroit is spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Micheal of Alma.

Romaine Clark, prosecuting attorney, of Ithaca, was in the city on legal business connected with his office Tuesday.

Peter Hoyt, who is working in Flint at the present time spent the week end and Christmas in Alma with his family.

Merlin Keene, Lester Martin, and Attorney C. H. Goggin and Homer Dunham are in Grand Rapids today on legal business.

Miss Run Day, who is teaching in Detroit this year, is spending the holiday vacation with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. N. Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Millard of Detroit spent Christmas at the home of the latter's sister, Mrs. J. B. Grosskopf, on West End street.

Roger Zinn, principal of the Mantion schools, is spending the Christmas holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Zinn.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Moffett and son of Detroit are spending the holidays with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen L. Bennett.

Get your 1923 license plates of Sharrer & Watson. You must bring your certificate of title, also bring driver's license.—advertisement.

The W. R. C. Thimble Club will have circle meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 1923. A pot luck dinner will be served. Everyone is invited to attend.

Miss Esther Babcock, who is teaching in the public schools of Midland, is spending the holiday vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Babcock.

Miss Zoa Wheaton of Flint, and Herbert Wheaton of Grand Rapids are spending the holiday week with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wheaton.

Miss Esther Rhodes, who is attending Smith college, is spending the holiday vacation in this city, a guest at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Rhodes.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Doerr, who have been visiting with their daughter, Mrs. R. A. Youngs, 114 Center street, for the past ten days, left today for their home in Battle Creek.

Justin Cash, who is attending M. A. C. and Paul Cash, who is attending the University of Michigan, are spending the holiday vacation with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent P. Cash.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Clark entertained Miss Flossie of Detroit, Alger of Detroit, Lloyd and his wife and child of Ovid and Hiel and family of St. Johns at Christmas dinner on Monday.

Mrs. F. H. May of Chicago, Mrs. R. C. May of Defiance, Ohio, and Mrs. R. H. Atkinson of Flint were called here by the sudden death of their sister, Miss Belle Burland who died Tuesday morning in St. Mary's Hospital, Saginaw where she had been taken for treatment on Saturday of last week.

Alma Girl Married on Christmas Eve

A pretty wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carter, 111 Penritth avenue, Christmas eve, when Miss Lucile Banks of Alma, sister of Mrs. Carter, was united in marriage to Mr. Othel-Mack of Detroit. The bride wore a gown of pale blue crepe de chine with a bridal veil and wreath. She carried a bouquet of roses and carnations. Miss Betty Witter was bridesmaid and Mrs. Earl Ziesse was best man. Mrs. Erwin Carter played the wedding march. Leona Banks, the small sister of the bride, was flower girl and Marion Carter, niece of the bride, carried the ring in a calla lily. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. H. Anderson of the Christian Church, in front of a Christmas tree lighted up with many colored lights. The bride couple stood under a large white bell. They will reside in Detroit after New Years.

Just what steps the committee proposes to take are not known at this time, and whether the committee may possibly attempt to secure new finances for the concern, or take some other steps cannot be told at the present time. It is probable that some definite action may be taken by the committee before the week is over. It is certain, however, that the committee will make a full investigation into all of the affairs of the company before anything further may be expected.

Following a discussion of the affairs of the company and the reading of a statement by Secretary Ream, a committee of five members was appointed, which will have for its aim a thorough knowledge of all of the affairs of the company and the possibilities that are offered for the future.

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## JUST KIDS—AND HE COULD PROVE IT.



## SANATORIUM OPENS SOON

New Ionia Sanatorium to Be Used for TB. Patients of Prisons of State.

The new state tuberculosis sanatorium for inmates of Michigan's penal institutions is practically completed. According to information received from Dr. R. M. Olin, Commissioner of the Michigan Department of Health, the building, erected since July 1, at a cost of \$10,000, will be occupied by the middle of January.

This sanatorium is one of the tangible results of the work of the health department's bureau of institutional health administration, organized in Sept. 1921, to cope with the deplorable unhealthy conditions then existing in state prisons and reformatories. The surveys made by the department of health showed that tuberculosis prisoners were quartered with those who were not infected with the disease and that the living conditions were such as to encourage a rapid spread of tuberculosis.

Members of the health department believe that the new sanatorium will aid in the cure of persons who have already contracted the disease and halt its spread among other prisoners.

Another undesirable feature of Michigan's penal system was uncovered by this survey. It is the indiscriminate housing of mentally subnormal persons with those of normal mentality. A psychiatric unit, authorized to investigate the mental status of incoming prisoners in these institutions has now been made possible by the state administrative board.

If present plans mature, this clinic will attempt to solve the problem of segregation.

## POEM ON ALMA

If everyone in Alma, who has lived here for some little time, could live in some other community for a short period they might gather the same idea of the desirability of Alma as a place to live as did Harold Ewing, a seventh grade lad, who recently moved here from Byron, and entered the Alma schools. Young Ewing sent the poem back to the old home town folks and it was published in the Durand Express. His poem follows.

The city of Alma, Gratiot Co., Mich. Is as nice a place to live As anyone could wish. It has four schools, six churches, and factories galore, And if I should cry my eyes out, I could not tell you more.

The place is built on level ground A person can see for miles around. It has a sugar factory and a pickle plant.

Just came up here and take a slant. Our coal yards, they are all first class. You can buy the coal, if you have the cash.

Of grocery stores we have a plenty, I counted and found we had twenty. Lumber yards and railroads too, Also a store run by a Jew.

We have a river called the Pine, And I will tell you it is fine. Our mill is run by water power, From wheat they manufacture flour.

Our electric lights are a Northern brand, Our gas plant is one of the best in the land.

Republic trucks are the principal trade, This is the place where they are made.

The buildings are large, the streets are wide, From Durand, Alma lies straight northwest.

I have made this rhyme and did my best, But if you do not like the scheme, You can reach here by driving the M 14.

## TAKE NOTICE

Monday, January 1st, 1923 being a Legal Holiday the Post Office will be closed all day. There will be no Rural or City deliveries or window service on that day. The public will take due notice as delivery service is suspended on that day. Mail will be dispatched as usual. Frank O. Parker Postmaster.

## Order of Services At the Churches

Presbyterian Church Corner of W. Superior St. and Prospect Ave. Rev. W. L. Gelston, minister.

10 a. m. Sunday School. 11 a. m.—Morning service. A New Year's sermon presenting the year text for 1923. At the conclusion of the service, cards on which the text is printed will be given to those present.

2:30 p. m.—Junior Endeavor. 6:30 p. m.—High School Endeavor. Topic: "Lessons from a New Year's Psalm." Ps. 90:1-17.

7:30 p. m.—Evening Worship. Theme: "Three Words from the Cross." All are invited to these services.

Baptist Church Sunday, Dec. 31—Regular preaching services 10 a. m. and 7 p. m. by Rev. Chas. D. Ellis. Sunday School 11:15 a. m. Young People's meeting, 6 p. m. Prayer Meeting, Thursday at 7:30 o'clock.

A cordial invitation to all these services.

St. John's Episcopal Church 10 a. m.—Sunday school. 11 a. m.—Morning prayer and sermon. "Subject: 'The Wise Men from the East.'"

7 p. m.—Evening prayer and sermon. Subject: "A New Year's Greeting." Special music at both services. Strangers and visitors cordially invited.

Rev. James Moore Horton, L. Th. Rector.

Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday services—10:00—Sunday school. 11:00 A. M.—Morning worship. Sermon subject: A New Year's Greeting.

5:00 P. M.—Evening service. A special message and an interesting service.

6:00 p. m.—Epworth League. Cordial invitation to all services. Matt. W. Duffey, Minister.

St. Mary's Catholic Church (Cor. Prospect and Downie Sts.) Sunday services as follows: Masses at 8:30 and 10:30 a. m. the first and third Sunday of the month. Mass at 10:30 a. m. only on the second and fourth Sunday of the month.

Rev. John Mulvey, Pastor. East Superior Christian Church H. H. Anderson, Minister.

Sunday A. M.—Bible school at 9:45. Communion and sermon at 11:00. Sunday P. M.—C. E. at 6:00. Evangelistic service at 7:00.

The Loyal Men's Class will hold a social and business meeting at the home of Roy Young on Center street Friday evening.

United Brethren Church After a very merry Christmas we enter upon the work of a new year. Let us pull together and make it the best year ever for Christ and the church.

Order of service for next Sunday—(Note the changes). ALMA CHURCH 119 Hastings St.

Sunday School—10 a. m. Christian Endeavor—6 p. m. Evening sermon—7:00 p. m. JACKSON ST. CHURCH Morning sermon—10:30 a. m. Sunday school—11:30. Christian Endeavor—7:00 p. m.

Remember that next Sunday is the time to reorganize the Sunday Schools.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year. C. H. Hull, Pastor.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING The Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Alma Savings and Loan Association will be held at the office of the Secretary at 106 East Superior Street, Alma, Mich., on Monday evening, Jan. 8, 1923, at 7:30 o'clock for the purpose of electing four directors and such other business as may properly come before such meeting.

D. L. Johnson, Secy. 83-34ks

## VESTABURG

Melvin Wadle, the eldest son of Fred and Elsie Wadle of Pine Grove, was born June 8th 1914 and departed this life early Thursday morning, December 21st, 1922 at the age of 8 years, 6 months and 13 days.

Melvin attended school up to about nine days before his death.

He leaves to mourn their loss his parents and brothers, Raymond and Herbert, grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wadle Sr. of Pine Grove and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Caris of Vestaburg, great grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. David Mangle of Vestaburg, many other relatives and friends.

The funeral services were held at the Church of Christ in Ferris, Saturday morning, December 23, at eleven o'clock. Interment in the cemetery at Ferris Township.

A very bountiful Christmas dinner was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wartz on Christmas day, which was attended by a number of relatives and friends. A very enjoyable day was spent socially and with music. There were twenty-one guests present at the happy gathering which included Mr. Frank Cummings, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Beach and children, Mrs. Jennie Grear and daughter, Charlotte, Mrs. Myrt Cummings and children of Vestaburg.

The out of town guests were Victor Harris of St. Louis, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Owen and son of Forest Hill and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ogden and son of Niagara Falls, New York.

Wm. Caris and son and the former's cousin, Ezra Eggleston of Ohio were near Elm Hall, Sunday visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Howay and the latter's daughter, Bertha Varwyuck, of Edmore spent Xmas with the former's brother, Fred Howay, and family and other relatives.

Frank Cummings was in Alma, Friday.

Mrs. Edna Manley and Mrs. Ella Findsen autoed to Alma, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Favorite entertained a gathering of relatives at their home Xmas day. Among those present were the latter's daughter, Mrs. George Arts, husband and children of Vestaburg and Mrs. Eva Hardy of Saginaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Caris of Detroit came Friday to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Caris.

Ezra Eggleston of Bowling Green, Ohio, came Thursday to visit his cousins Daniel, Thomas, and Wm. Caris.



Made only by THE MODEL BAKERY

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Howay of Detroit are guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Howay.

Mr. and Mrs. James O'Connor of Edmore were Xmas guests of the latter's mother, Mrs. M. Guild.

Rev. Morse of Elm Hall, who is the Free Methodist pastor on the circuit which includes Vestaburg, where he comes on Friday evenings to hold services at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Manley, was pleasantly surprised on Friday evening when at the close of the services he was presented with a Xmas offering, which included a purse of money, a quilt and various other articles.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Woodman and son, Robert, have returned to their home at Centerville after visiting Mrs. Woodman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Caris.

Meuno Otterbien, who is Supt. of the Mendon school, was here to spend Xmas at the home of his father-in-law, Rev. J. D. Tanner.

Mrs. Eva Hardy of Saginaw is here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Stites, and sister, Mrs. Leon Erskint.

Kenneth Peasley is home from Angola, Indiana, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Peasley.

Mrs. Ray Cleland and little daughter, Betty Lou, returned to their home in Wisconsin after spending Christmas at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Strong.

Miss Florence Strong left for Waukesha, Wis., where she will spend the remainder of the winter with friends and relatives.

Circulation counts—we have it.

Don't Throw It Away.

We can fix it.

Alma Cycle Company

REPAIRS EVERYTHING

Clothing Properly Cleaned and Dyed

looks as good as when new and is vastly more economical.

We clean and dye everything for men, women and children, and guarantee you against injury to even the most delicate fabrics.

Prices are consistently low.

ALMA CITY DRY CLEANERS AND TAILORS

## Get More Nourishment From Less Food

YOU eat food for the nourishment it contains. Nourishment supplies the health and strength that are necessary to your physical and mental well-being.

Thus you see the necessity for eating only the best food, that which is pure and contains the maximum of nourishment.

That is the kind of groceries and foodstuffs we sell at very close prices.

Start the New Year Right at

POWELL'S GROCERY

FREE DELIVERY AT 9 A. M. AND 3 P. M.

# Auction Sale

The undersigned having lost his wife, will sell at public auction at his residence located 2 miles east, 1 mile south, and 80 rods east of the Elwell corners or 2 miles west, 1 mile south, and 80 rods east of Alma on

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Commencing at 9:00 o'clock a. m. sharp, the following described property:

## HORSES

One bay mare, 5 years old, wt. 1300  
One bay horse, 9 years old, wt. 1300  
One bay mare, 13 years old, wt. 1200

## COWS AND OTHER STOCK